

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln of: JUZWIAK, et al
Serial No.: tbd
Filed: March 15, 2004
Title: TAILGATE MODULE
PTO Customer No.: 32047
Atty. Docket No.: TRM TR010037CON

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

The references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 relate to the subject matter of the present invention and are brought to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 1.98.

DE 19747171 is not in the English language. By way of a concise explanation of the reference, an English language abstract for DE 19747171 is enclosed. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i) and MPEP 609 a concise explanation of the non-English language information has been provided.

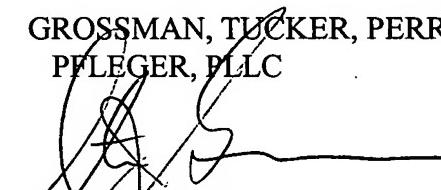
This statement is being submitted prior to a first office action on the merits. While this statement contains all the relevant information presently known to the applicant, it should not be interpreted as a representation that an exhaustive search has been conducted or that no other

relevant information exists. Also, this statement should not be interpreted as a representation that any cited reference is prior art, or that any cited reference is "material to patentability" as defined in 37 CFR §1.56. The applicant invites the Examiner to make an independent evaluation of each cited reference, copies of which are enclosed, to determine their relevance to the subject matter of the present application.

Finally, the applicant urges that the claims are patentable over the disclosed information.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 15, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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I hereby certify that this paper and the papers listed thereon are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above, and is addressed to MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Signature of person mailing: Carol McClelland

Name of person mailing: Carol McClelland

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
TRM TR010037CON

In Re Application Of: JUZWIAK, et al

Serial No. tbd	Filing Date MARCH 15, 2004	Examiner	Group Art Unit
Title: TAILGATE MODULE			

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

37 CFR 1.97(b)

1. The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

37 CFR 1.97(c)

2. The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:
 - the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

OR

- the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
TRM TR010037CON

In Re Application: JUZWIAK, et al

Serial No.

tbd

Filing Date

MARCH 15, 2004

Examiner

Group Art Unit

TAILGATE MODULE

Payment of Fee

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. _____ as described below.
 - Charge the amount of _____
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Dated: **MARCH 15, 2004**

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
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JUZWIAK, et al

FILING

March 15, 2004

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
1		6,224,128 B1	05.01.2001	MAINS	296	37.6	
2		6,206,445 B1	03.27.2001	BROOKS	296	51	
3		6,170,724 B1	01.09.2001	CARTER, et al	224	404	
4		5,887,931	03.30.1999	BILLS, et al	296	39.1	
5		5,823,595	10.20.1998	TRONCO	296	26.03	
6		5,685,468	11.11.1997	HERNANDEZ, et al	224	492	
7		5,649,734	07.22.1997	SPEIS	296	57.1	
8		5,556,151	09.17.1996	NEW, et al	296	39.2	
9		5,533,771	07.09.1996	TAYLOR, et al	296	26	
10		5,518,158	05.21.1996	MATLACK	224	402.000	
11		5,427,033	06.27.1995	BLY	108	44	

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
12		197 47 171 A1	04.29.1999	Germany (w/English Abstract)	B 60 R	3/02		✓
13		0 037 599	03.10.1981	Europe	B 60 R	9/06	✓	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
14		5,408,907	04.25.1995	MAINS	83	468.7	
15		5,397,147	03.14.1995	DUCHARME, et al	280	415.1	
16		5,267,748	12.07.1993	CURRAN	280	415.1	
17		5,169,202	12.08.1992	CUPP, et al	296	51	
18		5,136,953	08.11.1992	SCHMIDT	108	44	
19		5,082,037	01.21.1992	HAMMONS, et al	144	286	
20		5,007,568	04.16.1991	DA VAULT	224	42.45	
21		4,993,088	02.19.1991	CHUDIK	5	118	
22		4,949,945	08.21.1990	WHITELEY	269	71	
23		4,915,437	04.10.1990	CHERRY	296	37.6	
24		4,906,015	03.06.1990	LACROIX, et al	280	415.1	

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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25		4,887,526	12.19.1989	BLATT	108	44	
26		4,639,032	01.27.1987	BARBOUR	296	62	
27		4,576,395	03.18.1986	LONGORIA	280	511	
28		4,570,986	02.18.1986	SAMS	293	117	
29		4,531,773	07.30.1985	SMITH	296	26	
30		4,516,308	05.14.1985	URBAN	29	564	
31		4,375,306	03.01.1983	LINDER	312	250	
32		4,305,695	12.15.1981	ZACHRICH	414	522	
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34		4,023,850	05.17.1977	TILLERY	296	26	
35		3,844,158	10.29.1974	MERCER	72	455	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

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36		DES 411,487	06.29.1999	MCDONALD	D12	98	
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38		4,181,349	01.01.1980	NIX, et al	296	39 R	
39		4,846,385	07.11.1989	FRATUS	224	42.45	
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41		5,328,225	07.12.1994	MELCHING, et al	296	26	
44		5,947,540	09.07.1999	PARISEAU, et al	296	57.1	
43		6,116,673	09.12.2000	CLONAN	296	37.6	
44		6,224,127 B1	05.01.2001	HODGE	296	26.08	
45		6,227,594 B1	05.08.2001	POMMERET	296	57.1	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

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